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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

RESOLUTION

TARIFFS

New Delhi, the 19th January, 1949.

No. 34(4)-T./B/48.—In their Resolution No. 134-T(19)/47, dated the 10th April, 1948 in the Ministry of Commerce, the Government of India requested the Tariff Board to examine and report whether protection for the silver thread and wire industry should be continued after the 31st March 1949 and if so, to what extent. The Board, having conducted an enquiry, has submitted its report. Its main recommendations are as follows:—

- (i) "Since the industry has made substantial progress during the last several years and has been able to capture the entire market in this country, and since there are at present no imports, no protection is necessary in the present circumstances. If, however, the silver thread industry is threatened by foreign competition at any future time, the matter can be referred to the Board for a summary, inquiry and report.
- (ii) Government should take early steps to establish an Institute of Technology or technical school, where artisans can be trained.
- (iii) Government should ask the Indian Trade Commissioners abroad to explore the possibilities of developing an export market for jari and jari products.
- (iv) To draw wires of uniform thickness and fineness diamond dies are the best. The locally manufactured diamond dies are not of the requisite standard. It is recommended that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research should investigate the problem of manufacturing suitable diamond dies in India. Although the industry has succeeded in improving the process of manufacturing it is felt that qualified technical men are required to place this industry on a sound basis. Government should, therefore, depute some technical men to study the process of manufacture in foreign countries.
- (v) In future negotiations for a trade treaty with Pakistan, Government should bear in mind the desirability of duty free movement of jari and jari products between the two Dominions.
- (vi) Provincial Governments concerned should take steps to assist the reorganisation of the industry and to improve its technique and marketing methods.

(vii) In Surat most of the workers are working in very unhealthy surroundings and the Factories Act is not at present being enforced. It is recommended that the Provincial Government concerned should set up a representative Committee to enquire and report how far and by what stages the Factories Act should be applied to this industry.

2. The Government of India accept recommendation (i) and will introduce necessary legislation to replace the existing protective duty on silver thread and wire by a revenue duty as from the 1st April 1949.

3. Government accept recommendation (ii) and necessary steps will be taken to implement it. With regard to recommendation (v) suitable action will be taken by the Government of India at the appropriate time.

4. Recommendations (ii) and (iv) are under active consideration.

5. Recommendation (vi) will be brought to the notice of the Provincial Governments concerned and No. (vii) to the notice of the Government of Bombay.

ORDERS

ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to all Provincial Governments, all Chief Commissioners, Ministry of External Affairs (External Affairs Wing), Ministry of External Affairs (Commonwealth Relations Wing), and the several Ministries of the Government of India, Prime Minister's Secretariat, Cabinet Secretariat, the Private and Military Secretaries to His Excellency the Governor-General, the Central Board of Revenue, the Auditor General, the Director-General of Employment and Resettlement, the Director General, Industry and Supply, the High Commissioner for India in London, the Economic Adviser to the Government of India, the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, the Indian Trade Commissioners, London, Buenos Aires, Toronto, Alexandria, Colombo, Paris, Mombasa, Tehran, Sydney, Karachi and Tokyo, Consul General for India, New York, Commercial Secretaries, Rangoon and Kabul, His Majesty's Senior Trade Commissioner in India, the United States Embassy, New Delhi, the Canadian Trade Commissioner in India, the Australian Trade Commissioner in India, Norwegian Consul General, Bombay, the High Commissioner for India in Pakistan, Karachi, the High Commissioner for Pakistan in India, New Delhi, the Secretary, Indian Tariff Board, Bombay, the Secretary, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, New Delhi, and all recognised Chambers of Commerce and Associations.

ORDERED that a copy be communicated to the Government of Burma.

ORDERED also that it be published in the Gazette of India.

S. RANGANATHAN, Joint Secy.